

[illegible]

5 A soft mute circuit includes a programmable  
amplifier controlled by a register. Data is stored in  
the register from an adder that combines the current data  
in the register with a second number for increasing or  
decreasing the gain of the amplifier. A summation  
10 circuit includes a plurality of inputs coupled by gates  
to a summation node and the summation node is coupled to  
an input of the programmable amplifier. The gates are  
controlled by suitable logic for selecting input signals  
in any combination. A control loop maintains the gain of  
15 the amplifier at a predetermined level.